

REMARKS

In the outstanding official action, claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 USC 102(a) as being anticipated by Coene '596, for the reasons of record. In response, independent claim 1 is herewith amended to more specifically and precisely recite the novel and unobvious features of the instant invention, and it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 1, as herewith amended, and dependent claim 2, are clearly patentably distinguishable over the cited and applied reference for the reasons detailed below.

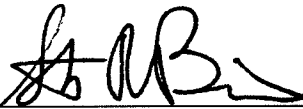
As herewith amended, independent claim 1 now more specifically recites that the data package has a staggered structure of data bits, and that the staggered structure of the detector elements matches the staggered structure of the data bits. Clear support for these additional recitations is to be found in the instant specification at page 3, lines 21-28, and page 4, line 25 - page 5, line 4, to be read in conjunction with Figs. 3a and 3b of the drawing.

In accordance with the invention, an optical holographic device is obtained which can read a holographic medium with an increased data density, without increasing the amount of signal processing circuitry, thus reducing size, power consumption and

cost.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the currently-pending claims, as herein amended to more particularly and precisely define the instant invention, are clearly patentably distinguishable over the cited and applied reference. Accordingly, allowance of the instant application is respectfully submitted to be justified at the present time, and favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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